THE CREATION;

A SACRED ORATORIO.

COMPOSED BY

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DOCTOR OF MUSIC;

IN ACTUAL SERVICE OF HIS HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF ESTERHAZY.

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THE CREATION.

PART I.

INTRODUCTION. (Chaos.)

RECIT. *accompanied.*

RAPHAEL.

IN the beginning God created the heaven and the earth; and the earth was without form, and void; and darkneſs was upon the face of the deep.

CHORUS.

And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters: and God ſaid, let there be light, and there was light.

RECIT. *accompanied.*

URIEL.

And God ſaw the light that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkneſs:

AIR.

AIR.

Now vaniſh before the holy beams,
The gloomy, diſmal ſhades of dark;
The firſt of days appears.
Diſorder yields to order fair the place;
Affrighted fled hell's ſpirits black in throngs;
Down they ſink in the deep of abyſs
To endleſs night.

CHORUS.

Deſpairing, curſing rage
Attends their rapid fall.
A new created world
Springs up at God's command.

RAPHAEL, GABRIEL, ANGELS.

RECITATIVE.

And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament; and it was ſo.

ACCOMPANIED.

Outrageous ſtorms now dreadful aroſe;
As chaff by the winds are impelled the clouds.
By heaven's fire the ſky is enflamed,
And awful rolled the thunders on high.
Now from the floods in ſtreams aſcend
Reviving ſhowers of rain,
The dreary, waſteful hail,
The light and flaky ſnow.

SONG.

SONG and CHORUS.

GABRIEL.

The marv'lous work beholds amaz'd
The glorious hierarchy of heav'n,
And to th' ethereal vaults reſound
The praiſe of God
And of the ſecond day.

ANGELS.

And to th' ethereal vaults reſound
The praiſe of God
And of the ſecond day.

RECITATIVE.

RAPHAEL.

And God ſaid: let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear; and it was ſo. And God called the dry land earth, and the gathering of the waters called he ſeas; and God ſaw that it was good.

AIR.

Rolling in foaming billows,
Uplifted roars the boiſt'rous ſea.
Mountains and rocks now emerge,
Their tops into the clouds aſcend.

Thro' th' open plains, outſtretching wide,
In ſerpent error rivers flow;
Softly purling glides thro' ſilent vales
The limpid brook.

RECITATIVE.

RECITATIVE.

GABRIEL.

And God ſaid: let the earth bring forth graſs, the herb yielding ſeed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whoſe ſeed is in itſelf upon the earth; and it was ſo.

AIR.

With verdure clad the fields appear
Delightful to the raviſh'd ſenſe;
Enhanced in the charming ſight
By flowers ſweet and gay.
Here vent their fumes the fragrant herbs;
Here ſhoots the healing plant.
By load of fruits th' expanded boughs are preſs'd;
To ſhady vaults are bent the tufty groves;
With cloſed wood is crown'd the mountain's brow.

RECITATIVE.

URIEL.

And the heavenly hoſt proclaimed the third day, praiſing God, and ſaying:

CHORUS.

Awake the harp, the lyre awake!
In ſhout and joy your voices raiſe;
In triumph ſing the mighty Lord,
For he th' heavens and earth has cloath'd
In ſtately dreſs.

RECITATIVE.

RECITATIVE.

URIEL.

And God ſaid: let there be lights in the firmament of Heaven to divide the day from the night, and to give light upon the earth, and let them be for ſigns and for ſeaſons, and for days and for years. He made the ſtars alſo.

ACCOMPANIED.

In ſplendor bright is riſing now
The ſun, and darts his rays;
An am'rous, joyful, happy ſpouſe,
A giant proud and glad
To run his meaſur'd courſe.

IN TEMPO.

With ſofter beams and milder light ſteps on
The ſilver moon thro' ſilent night.

AD LIBITUM.

The ſpace immenſe of th' azure ſky
Innum'rous hoſt of radiant orbs adorns.
And the ſons of God announced the fourth day
In ſong divine, proclaiming thus his power:

CHORUS.

The Heavens are telling the glory of God;
The wonder of his works
Diſplays the firmament.

GABRIEL, URIEL, RAPHAEL.

To day, that is coming, ſpeaks it the day;
The night, that is gone, to following night.

ALL.

The Heavens are telling the glory of God;
The wonder of his works
Diſplays the firmament.

GABRIEL, URIEL, RAPHAEL.

In all the lands reſounds the word,
Never unperceiv'd,
Ever underſtood.

ALL.

The Heavens are telling the glory of God;
The wonder of his works
Diſplays the firmament.

END OF THE FIRST PART.

PART II.

PART II.

RECIT. *accompanied.*

GABRIEL.

AND God ſaid: let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven.

SONG.

On mighty pens uplifted ſoars
The eagle aloft, and cleaves the ſky
In ſwifteſt flight to the blazing ſun.

His welcome bids to morn the merry lark;
And cooing calls the tender dove his mate.
From ev'ry buſh and grove reſound
The nightingale's delightful notes;
No grief affected yet her breaſt,
Nor to a mournful tale were turn'd
Her ſoft enchanting lays.

RECITATIVE.

RAPHAEL.

And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, and God bleſſed them, ſaying:

IN TEMPO.

Be fruitful all, and multiply!
Ye winged tribes be multiplied;
And ſing on ev'ry tree!
Be multiplied ye finny tribes,
And fill each wat'ry deep!
Be fruitful, grow, and multiply,
And in your God and Lord rejoice!

AD LIBITUM.

And the angels ſtruck their immortal harps, and the wonders of the fifth day ſung:

TRIO.

GABRIEL.

Moſt beautiful appear
With verdure young adorn'd,
The gently ſloping hills.
Their narrow, ſinuous veins
Diſtil in chryſtal drops
The fountain freſh and bright.

URIEL.

In lofty circles plays
And hovers thro' the ſky
The chearful hoſt of birds;
And in the flying whirl
The glitt'ring plumes are dy'd,
As rainbows, by the ſun.

RAPHAEL.

RAPHAEL.

Bartleman

See flaſhing thro' the wet
In thronged ſwarms the fry
On thouſand ways around.
Upheaved from the deep,
Th' immenſe Leviathan
Sports on the foaming wave.

ALL THREE.

How many are thy works, O God!
Who may their number tell!
The Lord is great; his glory laſts
For ever and evermore.

CHORUS.

The Lord is great, and great his might;
His glory laſts for ever and for evermore.

RECITATIVE.

RAPHAEL.

Bartleman

And God ſaid, let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind; cattle and creeping thing, and beaſts of the earth after their kind.

ACCOMPANIED.

Strait opening her fertile womb,
The earth obey'd the word, and teem'd
Creatures numberleſs,
In perfect forms, and fully grown.

Chearful

Chearful roaring ſtands the tawny lion;
In ſudden leaps the flexible tiger appears;
The nimble ſtag bears up his branching head.
With flying mane, and fiery look,
Impatient neighs the ſprightly ſteed.
The cattle in herds already ſeeks
His food on fields and meadows green,
And o'er the ground, as plants, are ſpread
The fleecy, meek and bleating flocks,
Unnumber'd as the ſands.
In whirls aroſe the hoſt of inſects.
In long dimenſions creeps
With ſinuous trace the worm.

AIR.

Now heav'n in all her glory ſhone;
Earth ſmiles in her rich attire.
The room of air with fowl is fill'd,
The water ſwell'd by ſhoals of fiſh;
By heavy beaſts the ground is trod.
But all the work was not complete;
There wanted yet that wond'rous being,
That grateful ſhould God's pow'r admire,
With heart and voice his goodneſs praiſe.

RECITATIVE.

URIEL.

And God created man in his own image. In the image of God created he him. Male and female created he him. He breathed into his noſtrils the breath of life, and man became a living ſoul.

SONG.

SONG.

In native worth and honour clad,
With beauty, courage, ſtrength adorn'd,
To heav'n erect and tall he ſtands
A man,
The Lord and king of nature all.

The large and arched front ſublime
Of wiſdom deep declares the ſeat,
And in his eyes with brightneſs ſhines
The ſoul,
The breath and image of his God.

With fondneſs leans upon his breaſt
The partner for him form'd,
A woman fair and graceful ſpouſe,

Her ſoftly ſmiling virgin looks,
Of flow'ry ſpring the mirror,
Beſpeak him love, and joy, and bliſs.

RECITATIVE.

Bartleman

RAPHAEL.

And God ſaw every thing that he had made, and behold it was very good, and the heavenly choir in ſong divine thus cloſed the ſixth day.

CHORUS.

Atchieved is the glorious work;
The Lord beholds it and is pleas'd.
In lofty ſtrains let us rejoice;
Our ſong let be the praiſe of God!

GABRIEL

GABRIEL AND URIEL.

On thee each living ſoul awaits;
From thee, O Lord, they beg their meat.
Thou openeſt thy hand,
And ſated all they are.

RAPHAEL.

But as to them thy face is hid,
With ſudden terror they are ſtruck.
Thou tak'ſt their breath away;
They vaniſh into duſt.

GABRIEL, URIEL, RAPHAEL.

Thou lett'ſt thy breath go forth again,
And life with vigour freſh returns.
Revived earth unfolds
New force and new delights.

ALL.

Atchieved is the glorious work.
Our ſong let be the praiſe of God!
Glory to his name for ever!
He ſole on high exalted reigns. Hallelujah.

END OF THE SECOND PART.

PART III.

PART III.

RECIT. *accompanied.*

URIEL.

IN roſy mantle appears,
By tunes ſweet awak'd,
The morning young and fair.

From the celeſtial vaults
Pure harmony deſcends
On raviſhed earth.

Behold the bliſsful pair,
Where hand in hand they go!
Their flaming looks expreſs,
What feels the grateful heart.

A louder praiſe of God
Their lips ſhall utter ſoon.
Then let our voices ring,
United with their ſong!

HYMN.

ADAM AND EVE.

By thee with bliſs, O bounteous Lord,
The heav'n and earth are ſtor'd.
This world ſo great, ſo wonderful,
Thy mighty hand has fram'd.

CHORUS.

CHORUS.

For ever bleſſed be his pow'r!
His name be ever magnified!

ADAM.

Of ſtars the faireſt, O how ſweet
Thy ſmile at dawning morn!
How brighten'ſt thou, O ſun, the day,
Thou eye and ſoul of all!

CHORUS.

Proclaim in your extended courſe
Th' Almighty pow'r and praiſe of God.

EVE.

And thou, that rules the ſilent night,
And all ye ſtarry hoſt,
Spread wide and ev'ry where his praiſe
In choral ſongs about.

ADAM.

Ye ſtrong and cumb'rous elements,
Who ceaſeleſs changes make,
Ye duſky miſts, and dewy ſteams,
Who riſe and fall thro' th' air.

ADAM AND EVE.

Reſound the praiſe of God, our Lord!

CHORUS.

Reſound the praiſe of God, our Lord!
His name is great, and great his might.

EVE.

Ye purling fountains tune his praiſe,
And wave your tops, ye pines!
Ye plants exhale, ye flowers breathe
At him your balmy ſcent!

ADAM.

Ye, that on mountains ſtately tread,
And ye, that lowly creep,
Ye birds, that ſing at heav'n's gate,
Ye, that thro' waters glide:

ADAM AND EVE.

Ye living ſouls extol the Lord!

CHORUS.

Ye living ſouls extol the Lord!
Him celebrate, him magnify.

ADAM AND EVE.

Ye vallies, hills, and ſhady woods,
Our raptur'd notes ye heard;
From morn to ev'n you ſhall repeat
Our grateful hymns of praiſe.

CHORUS.

Hail, bounteous Lord! Almighty, hail!
Thy word call'd forth this wond'rous frame.
Thy pow'r adore the earth and Heav'n:
We praiſe thee now and evermore.

RECITATIVE.

ADAM.

Our duty we performed now
In off'ring up to God our thanks.
Now follow me, dear partner of my life!
Thy guide I'll be, and ev'ry ſtep
Pours new delights into our breaſt,
Shews wonders ev'ry where.
Then may'ſt thou feel and know
The high degree of bliſs
The Lord allotted us,
And with devoted heart
His bounty celebrate.
Come, follow me! thy guide I'll be.

EVE.

O thou, for whom I am!
My help, my ſhield, my all!
Thy will is law to me;
So God, our Lord, ordains,
And from obedience grows
My pride and happineſs.

DUET.

ADAM.

Graceful conſort! at thy ſide
Softly fly the golden hours:
Ev'ry moment brings new rapture;
Ev'ry care is put to reſt.

EVE.

Spouſe ador'd! at thy ſide
Pureſt joys o'erflow the heart.
Life and all I am is thine;
My reward thy love ſhall be.

ADAM.

The dew-dropping morn
O how ſhe quickens all!

EVE.

The coolneſs of ev'n
O how ſhe all reſtores!

ADAM.

How grateful is
Of fruits the ſavour ſweet!

EVE.

How pleaſing is
Of fragrant bloom the ſmell!

BOTH.

But without thee, what is it to me:

ADAM.

The morning dew,

EVE.

The breath of ev'n,

ADAM.

ADAM.

The fav'ry fruit,

EVE.

The fragrant bloom!

BOTH.

With thee is ev'ry joy enhanc'd;
With thee delight is ever new.
With thee is life inceſſant bliſs;
Thine it whole ſhall be.

RECITATIVE.

URIEL.

O happy pair, and always happy yet,
If not by falſe conceit miſled;
Ye ſtrive at more as granted is,
And more to know, as know ye ſhould.

CHORUS.

Sing the Lord ye voices all!
Utter thanks ye all his works!
Celebrate his pow'r and glory!
Let on high reſound his name!
The Lord is great; his praiſe ſhall laſt for ever.
Amen.

FINIS.